

# Clinical Laboratory Update

November 2021

[www.milwaukee.gov/healthlab](http://www.milwaukee.gov/healthlab)

Phone: (414) 286-3526

Fax: (414) 286-5098

## From the desk of the Public Health Laboratory Director

### **Milwaukee Health Department Seeking Community Inputs for Strategic Planning**

MHD is encouraging input from communities and stakeholders, as we are working toward common goals aligned with department's anti-racist and health equity focus strategic planning. If you are interested in providing feedback on what a healthy Milwaukee looks like to you and how we can achieve this goal, please take a moment to complete the short survey at [Milwaukee.gov/MHDSurvey](http://Milwaukee.gov/MHDSurvey). **Survey will be opened through December 23, 2021.** All survey responses are anonymous. We appreciate your thoughtful advice to the health and well-being of Milwaukee.

### **MHDL Published in Peer-reviewed Journal on STI Diagnostic Testing**

MHDL staff recently authored in the *Sexually Transmitted Infection* (BMJ) journal. The study reported evaluation a lab-developed multiplex real-time PCR assay for diagnosis of syphilis, herpes and chancroid genital ulcers in four public health laboratories in the USA. Study partners include Dallas County, Michigan, Maryland state and Milwaukee PHLS, APHL and CDC's STD Prevention branch.

<https://sti.bmj.com/content/sextrans/early/2021/12/05/sextrans-2021-055081.full.pdf?ijkey=nkJs0aTn0uvHhV5&keytype=ref>

### **Wisconsin HIV Program— Statistics and Reports:**

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p0/p00484a-2020.pdf>

### **DPH BCD Memo: Considerations for Confirmatory Testing of COVID-19 Point-of-Care Tests**

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2021-10.pdf>

### **BCD: Respiratory Report—Week Ending Nov. 28, 2020**

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02346-2020-11-28.pdf>

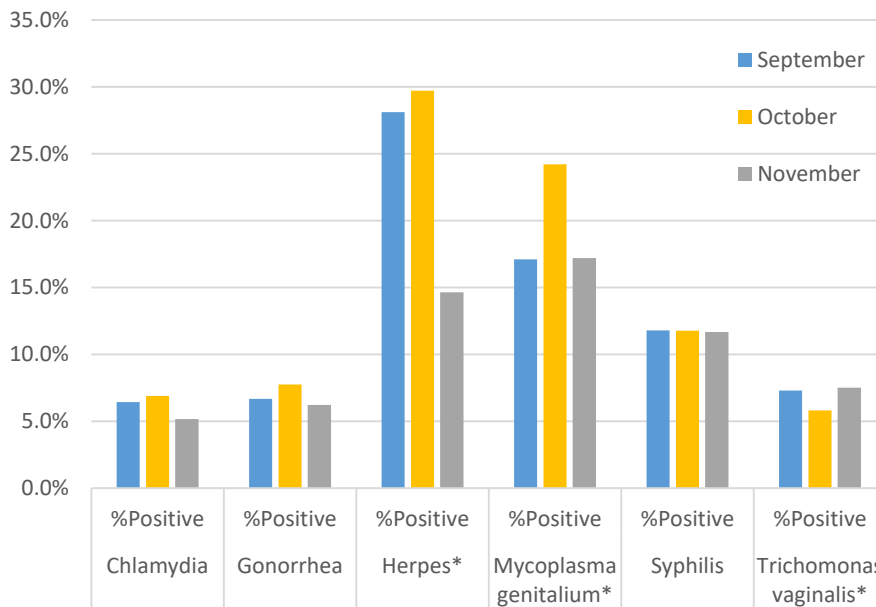
### **Links to related information & data:**

[MHDL COVID-19 Testing website](#)

[MHD COVID-19 Situation](#)

[WSLH Laboratory Surveillance Report](#)

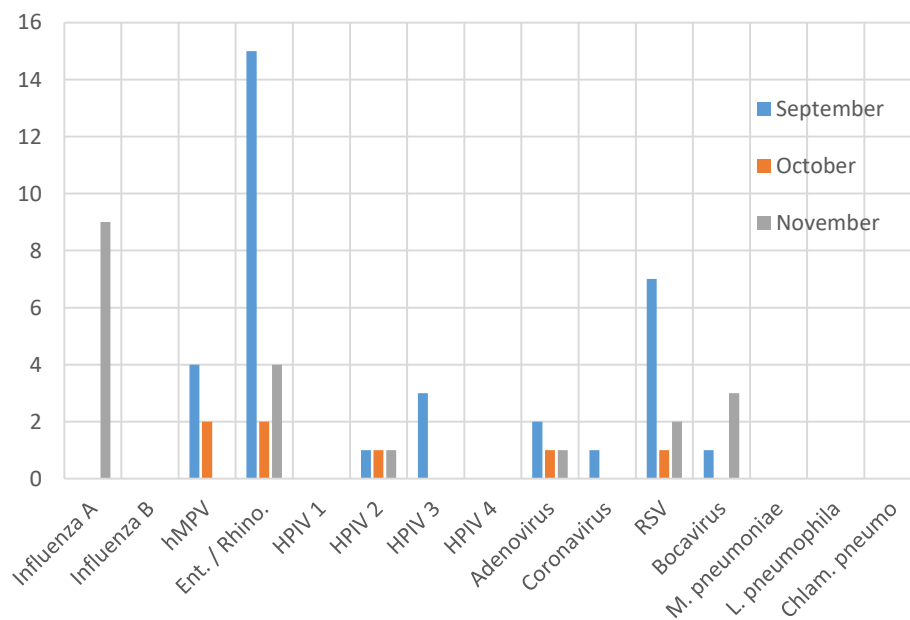
## Sexually Transmitted Infections



**Figure 1:** Percent positivity for specimens screened using molecular or serological assays for the given organism.

\*Not reportable as per WI DHS 145.04 (3) (a)

## Respiratory Infections

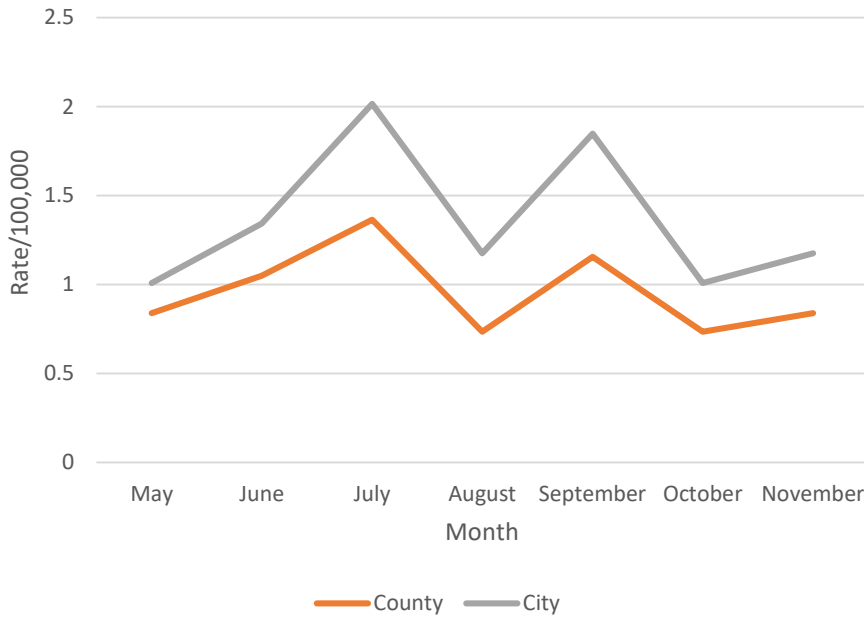


**Figure 2:** Respiratory pathogens detected using a Respiratory Pathogen Panel (RPP) and/or RT-PCR Influenza assay.

Connect with your health department:



## New HIV Infections

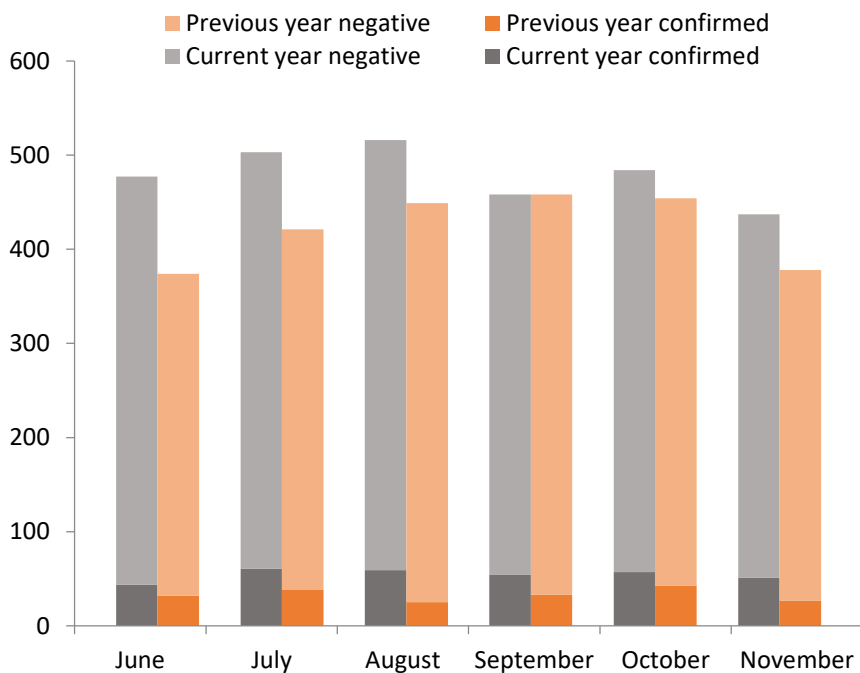


**Figure 3:** Monthly comparison of rate of new HIV infections in Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee, using data obtained from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. Numbers are provisional and subject to change.

For statewide HIV data, visit:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/hiv/data.htm>

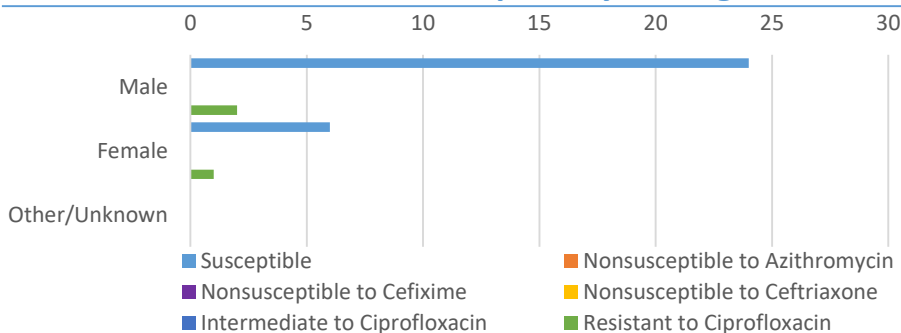
## Syphilis Surveillance



**Figure 4:** Monthly comparison of syphilis data with year over year comparisons.

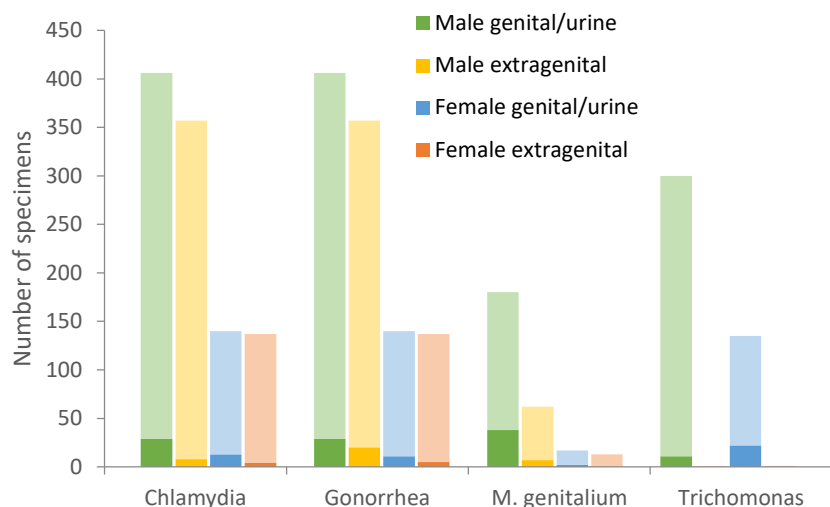
*Number of specimens screened at MHD, darker bars represent confirmed tests.*

## Gonorrhea Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing



**Figure 5:** Antibiotic susceptibility profile of Gonorrhea isolates identified in males and females. In November 2021, 3 of 33 cultures tested were found to be resistant to Ciprofloxacin according to CLSI guidelines. MHD tests for antibiotic resistance to Azithromycin, Ceftriaxone, Cefixime and Ciprofloxacin.

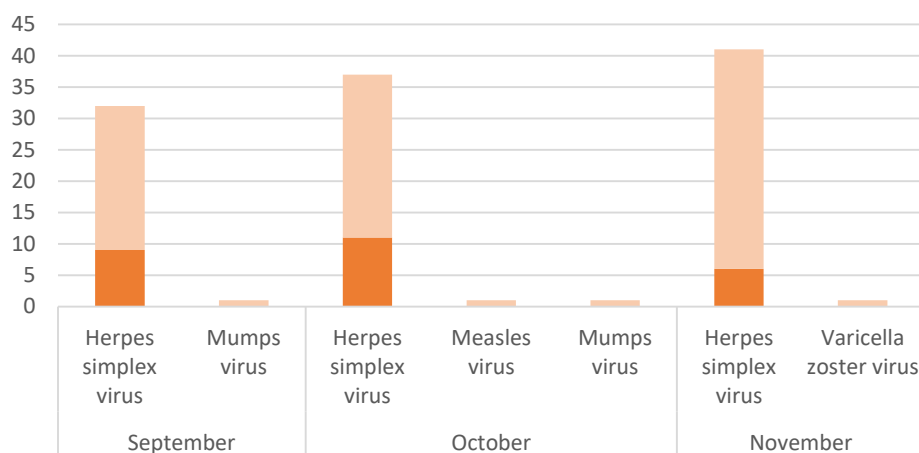
## Sexually Transmitted Infections by Source



**Figure 6:** Distribution of STIs detected using NAAT. In November 2021 4.8% of male and 6.1% of female specimens screened were positive for Chlamydia. 6.4% of male and 5.8% of female specimens were positive for Gonorrhea. 18.6% of male and 6.7% of female specimens were positive for *M. genitalium*. 3.7% of male specimens and 16.2% of female specimens were positive for *Trichomonas*.

*Note: Darker bars indicate positive specimens.*

## Viral Surveillance

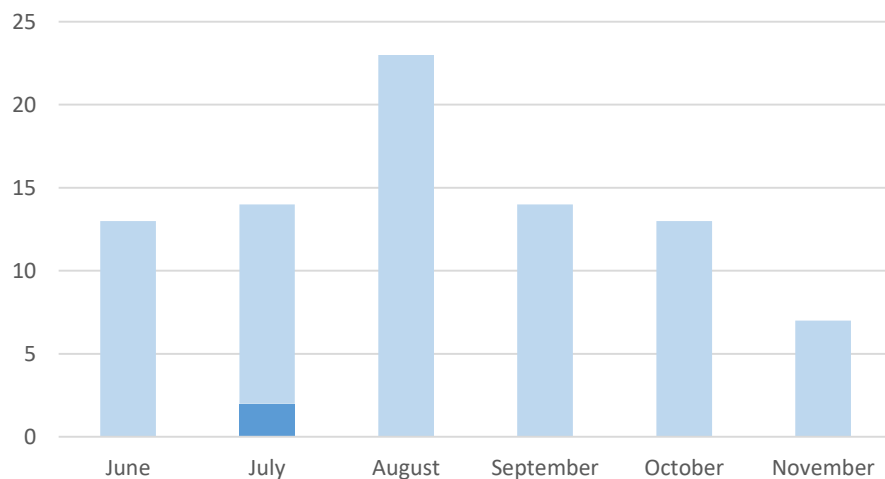


**Figure 7:** Specimens tested using molecular methods.

*Note: Height of bar indicates number of specimens tested.*

*Darker bars indicate DNA/RNA detected by virus culture, real-time PCR and/or nucleotide sequencing analysis.*

## Legionella Testing



**Figure 8:** Clinical specimens tested using culture and molecular methods.

\*MHDL is one of the **CDC ELITE** certified sites for environmental *Legionella* testing. See the Winter 2019 issue of the [APHL Bridges newsletter](#) for more information.

*Note: Darker bars indicate confirmed Legionella pneumophila by culture and/or real-time PCR.*